

COMMENDING EXEMPLARY LEADERSHIP OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

Mr. THURMOND. Mr. President, I ask the resolution commending the majority leader be reported.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 323) to commend the exemplary leadership of the majority leader.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection to the immediate consideration of the resolution?

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. THURMOND. Mr. President, I rise today to submit a Senate resolution to commend the exemplary leadership of the distinguished majority leader, the Honorable TRENT LOTT of Mississippi.

Senator LOTT is the 16th majority leader in the U.S. Senate and the first Mississippian ever to hold the Senate's top leadership post. He was elected to serve as majority leader on June 12, 1996.

The majority leader has earned the respect of his colleagues in both the House and Senate, having served in the House of Representatives for eight terms. While serving in the House, Senator LOTT was elected chairman of the House Republican Research Committee and for 8 years he served as the Republican Whip. The personal friendships he developed in the House have contributed well to his recent dealings with the other chamber.

Senator LOTT was elected to the Senate in 1988 and continued his leadership service as Secretary of the Senate Republican Conference. In 1995, he was elected Senate Majority whip and is the first person to be elected to the position of whip in both the House and the Senate.

Mr. President, since assuming the challenging responsibilities as majority leader, Senator LOTT has shown a penchant for moving legislation and a willingness to do so in a bipartisan manner. The majority leader has solid footing in the Senate's top post and it is not on the backs of his colleagues. Rather, Senator LOTT has worked in cooperation with the distinguished minority leader, Senator DASCHLE, and has been at our side in the trenches of this legislative arena. The Majority Leader has cooperated with all Senators to facilitate the orderly procession of the Senate's business.

Mr. President, Senator LOTT has a wonderful family and I extend my best wishes to his lovely wife, Tricia and their two fine children, Chet and Tyler. They are justifiably proud of Senator LOTT as a husband, father, and dedicated public servant. I am honored to call him my leader in the U.S. Senate and my good friend.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. If there is no objection, the resolution is agreed to.

The resolution (S. Res. 323) was agreed to as follows:

S. RES. 323

Resolved, That the thanks of the Senate are hereby tendered to the distinguished Majority Leader, the Senator from Mississippi, the Honorable Trent Lott, for his exemplary leadership and the cooperative and dedicated manner in which he has performed his leadership responsibilities in the conduct of Senate business during the second session of the 104th Congress.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Alabama.

THANKS TO STAFF

Mr. HEFLIN. Mr. President, there has been a lot of tributary praise on the floor of the Senate in the last few days. We have heard praise for Members, praise for spouses, and praise for the Senate itself. We have also heard a great deal of praise for staff members, and I want to add to that by taking a moment to say thanks to the many staff members I have worked with over the years.

It is easy to take staff for granted. Much of what they do is carried out in such a way that we might not be aware always of what they are doing. But they put in long hours just like Senators do. They are dedicated not only to us, but to the States we serve. My staff has helped thousands of Alabamians and other citizens with problems ranging from lost Workmans' Compensation benefits to delayed retirement checks to securing visas for overseas travel at the last minute.

I have been fortunate to have many long-time staff members who have been with me for many years, some since my first year in the Senate. Others have not been here as long, but have still made valuable contributions. Most have come from Alabama or had some connection to the State, such as being an alumnus of a university or college there, but others have come from the Washington area and other parts of the east coast.

I am proud of my staff, both here in Washington and in my four State offices. They have done an outstanding job for the Senate, for the State of Alabama, and for the Nation. Rather than name any one of them individually, at this time I ask unanimous consent that a list of my current staff with their hometowns and date of joining the office be printed in the RECORD after my remarks.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. HEFLIN. Mr. President, to all of them and to all of those who have served in the past and moved on to retirement, K Street, or some other career, I extend a hearty thanks for a job well-done.

EXHIBIT 1

SENATOR HOWELL HEFLIN'S ALABAMA AND WASHINGTON STAFF

(Including Hometowns and Date of Joining Office)

Denise Addison, data entry clerk, Washington, DC, Jan. 1986. Ann Berry, office manager, Birmingham, AL, April

1979. Cappie Brooks, secretary, Birmingham, AL, March 1989. Tim BROWN, state director, Enterprise, AL, Feb. 1985. Allen "Beau" Greenwood, legislative assistant, Corpus Christi, TX, February 1995. Joyce Hackworth, case worker, Birmingham, AL, January 1979. Thad Huguley, legislative assistant, Lanett, AL, August 1992. Lea Hurt, communications director, Decatur, AL, July 1991. Brenda Jarvis, state representative, Montgomery, AL, December 1990. Jan Johnson, state representative, Tuscumbia, AL, January 1979. Jeanne Jones, staff assistant, Mobile, AL, September 1982. Betty Lanier, secretary, Midway, AL, April 1986. Alan Leeth, legislative assistant/counsel, Opelika, AL, December, 1995. Winston Lett, Judiciary subcommittee minority chief counsel, Opelika, AL, October 1989. Mansel Long, legislative director, Tuscumbia, AL, February 1979. Judy Lovell, production manager, Bowie, MD, August 1987. Kristi Mashon, archivist, Austin, TX, June 1995. Kimberly McDonald, caseworker, Gaithersburg, MD, November 1991. Tom McMahon, press secretary, Montgomery, AL, February 1989. Jackie Natter, legislative assistant, Birmingham, AL, November 1994. Barry Phelps, speechwriter/legislative assistant, Birmingham, AL October 1990. Steve Raby, administrative assistant, Harvest, AL, January 1984. Rob Schultz, legislative aide, Allentown, PA, June 1996. Barbara Sherrill, secretary, Sheffield, AL, November 1985. Samantha Smith, scheduler, Florence, AL, August 1993. Mary Spies, personal secretary, Washington, DC, January 1979. Yolanda Turner, mail clerk, Suitland, MD, August 1992. Stanley Vines, state representative, Birmingham, AL, April 1984. Heidi Wagner, staff assistant, Mobile, AL, July 1995. Sally Walburn, receptionist, Tuscaloosa, AL, June 1996. Connie Weavil, receptionist, Winston-Salem, NC, June 1995. Jim Whiddon, judiciary subcommittee minority counsel, Montgomery, AL, November 1993. Janet Whit-Mitchell, state representative, Mobile, AL, August 1989.

Mr. COCHRAN addressed the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Mississippi.

COMMENDING THE MAJORITY LEADER

Mr. COCHRAN. Mr. President, let me add a few brief words of comment in support of the resolutions that were adopted earlier. As we wrap up this session of the 104th Congress, I am constrained to commend, in a very sincere way, the work that has been done by my distinguished colleague, who I serve with, from my State of Mississippi, TRENT LOTT.

As he has taken the reins of majority leader and discharged the duties of that important office, I have been very proud of him, and our entire State has been proud of him, in the way he has managed these challenges, handled this job in good grace, with a good sense of